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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY East Germany

DATE DISTR. 3 June 1954

SUBJECT RFT Funkwerk Koepenick:
Soviet Control of Research, Development,
and ProductionNO. OF PAGES 2
617863PLACE
ACQUIREDNO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)DATE OF
INFO.SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

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1. Supervision of Funkwerk Koepenick by the Soviet Occupation authorities is not readily recognized, if it exists at all. Prior to 31 December 1949 Funkwerk Koepenick, then called the Zentrallaboratorium fuer Signal und Sonderaufgaben (Central Laboratory for Signal and Special Tasks) was occupied by the Soviets and was engaged principally in the production of measuring instruments for SAG Kabel. These large orders from SAG Kabel, chiefly for oscillographs and impulse generators, were treated with great secrecy. During the first years following the end of World War II the revenue from SAG Kabel kept the entire firm going. The progress of the work was supervised regularly by uniformed Soviet officers. However, the Soviet authorities appeared to be objective and lenient and did not enforce the payment of the fines imposed for inability to fulfill the contract, even though the deadline was missed by a considerable period of time. Dr. Vinzelberg, Director of Development, who was responsible for the liabilities and failures of the plant, was present at all conferences and took part in the testing operations and in planning the projects. Production of the measuring instruments was transferred to the USSR in December 1949.
2. During the following three years Soviet officers in uniform visited the Funkwerk on three occasions. They saw only the Director of Development and the Director of the Department of Measuring Instruments Construction, both of whom had been concerned previously with the Soviet orders from SAG Kabel.
3. The Department of Transmitter Construction was not inspected openly by the Soviets. About every two months various groups of Russian-speaking individuals and interpreters arrived at the Funkwerk. They wanted to be informed on current projects within the framework of the "exchange of experience gained in the People's Democracies." It is doubtful that their purpose was to control the work because the visits were badly organized and they appeared to be satisfied with the briefing they obtained. Frequently these men were very young and inexperienced. They were impressed by technical novelties and easily frightened by the atmosphere of the high voltage laboratory and test stand.
4. However, all results were passed on immediately to the Soviets. A special organization, the Bureau of Inventions (Bureau fuer Erfindungswesen) was set up in the Funkwerk. This large group consisted only of trusted politicians, not good technicians. The group immediately requisitioned the files of Herr Puchmueller,

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(fna), an expert on patents, and took over the entire business of his department. Although the work on patent applications was henceforth neglected, the members of the Bureau of Inventions attempted to make up for this by collecting background material from the laboratories. In addition, the Bureau became interested in the procurement of young personnel. Wendland (fna), Director of the Bureau of Inventions, with the help of his intimate friend, Assistant Laboratory Director Passlack (fna), founded an "Aktiv" among the members of the high-frequency laboratory. This "Aktiv" ceased operations when Wendland was transferred to another plant and Passlack was fired because he had submitted a forged diploma. The Bureau, however, still remained at the Funkwerk. It was enlarged by Essler (fna), former DGL-Chairman, and Herr Lehmann (fna), formerly of the Chamber of Technology (Kammer der Technik). The principal task of the Bureau of Inventions appeared to be the acquisition of all new technical literature and ideas and the transfer of this information, without delay, to the Soviet Occupation authorities. The daily logs of each laboratory were inspected and all patent applications were translated into Russian with added suggestions for improvement. The translated patent applications were given to the Soviet authorities even before they were checked by the branch office of the patent bureau and registered. On one occasion, a few hours after a patent application had been turned in, the applicant requested that it be returned to him so that he could make a change. The application had already been given to the translator who returned it covered with poorly erased remarks in Russian. As this patent application did not concern an important problem, it was assumed that all new applications were handled in this manner.

Even if an attempt at supervision is being made by the Soviets in this way, they can never obtain a true picture of operations at the Funkwerk because of the poor qualifications of the "supervising" personnel. The DDR and the Soviet authorities are probably well aware of this situation but more efficient personnel are not

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